

TONS OF FISH BAIT.

CATCHING MENHADEN OFF THE
COAST OF NEW ENGLAND.How Schools of Fish Are Pursued, Cap-
tured and Stowed Aboard—An Accom-
modating Member of the Finny Tribe
Which Can Be Used in Many Ways.Pitching his voice high the lookout at
the masthead of the menhaden steamer
shouts out gleefully: "A school! A
school!" and immediately all is bustle
and excitement on board."As this is a new experience to you,
sir, you shall have a seat with me in my
boat.""Thank you, captain; I am only too
eager to see the fun."The crews now take their places in the
seine boats, while two of the party,
known as drivers, go out in advance in
little thirteen foot boats to learn the
direction in which the school is moving,
and to mark out its size. The jolly cap-
tain—a true type of the traditional Cape
Coddier, square built, sturdy, genial, his
face bronzed by years of exposure to
sunshine and sea breezes and very intelli-
gent withal—takes his place at the in-
side bow oar in one of the seine boats,
and the mate a corresponding position in
the other, and by the time they reach
the school the drivers describe the move-
ments of the fish.They now begin throwing out the
seine, each boat going in an opposite di-
rection around the school, the drivers in
the meantime splashing the water to
keep the fish from escaping. Soon the
boats meet, and all hands now pull at
the purse line, the net and cork line.
The steamer is brought alongside, and
after the fish are driven well together
the net is fastened to the steamer's side
and they are haled into the hold by
means of a large dip net run by a donkey
engine.The next thing on the programme is
to prepare the menhaden for salting, to
be used as bait—for which there is great
demand. This is a simple process, but
to me its novelty invests it with particu-
lar interest. The head of the fish is
taken in the left hand of the workman,
and with a peculiarly shaped knife held
in the right hand he cuts a slice, longi-
tudinally, from each side of the body,
leaving the head and vertebrae to be
pressed for oil. The slivers are salted
and packed in barrels.This opening act of the day's drama
ended, Captain Williams invites me to
accompany him into the cabin, and the
jolly skipper there entertains me with
some interesting points about the fishery."It's queer how many different names
the menhaden is known by," observes
the skipper. "Fact is, it has more nick-
names than a veteran criminal—more nick-
names than there were colors to Joseph's
coat. Besides the more common name
of menhaden it is known as pogey, bouy-
fish, moonbunker, hardhead, whiffetfish,
bunker, oldwife, bugfish, cheboy, ell-
wife, alewife, fatback, greenfat, wife
and yellowtail shad. It's about as long
as the common sardine, but is deeper
and more robust looking. Its aver-
age length is from twelve to fifteen
inches. I hardly need tell you that it is
valuable as a bait fish, it excelling all
others as such; that as a food resource
it is thought to have great qualities;
that its chief value is as a fertilizer and
that it is also valuable for the oil and
scrap produced by cooking and pressing
them.""For illustration, here are some min-
utes I made in my memorandum book
in regard to what was done in the year
1880, which was a fair representative sea-
son. That year the total weight of the
catch was 576,000 pounds—equivalent to
about 700,000,000 menhaden in number.
Pretty big army, eh? Quantity of oil pro-
duced, 2,066,386 gallons, and of guano
68,904 tons, having a total value of
\$2,084,641. Capital invested in steamers,
etc., and their outfit and in factories,
\$2,362,841. As compared with previous
years, however, the yield of oil was
small.""About how long, captain, does the
catching season last?""Well, you see, as soon as the men-
haden make their appearance in the
spring, vessels start in pursuit of 'em,
and continue capturing 'em till they dis-
appear in the fall. From the menhaden
oil and guano factories along the south-
ern coast of New England, New York
and New Jersey shores, the fleets of
steam and sail vessels begin their cruises
early in May, chasing the fish along the
shores and in the sounds, wherever they
can be found. The vessels seldom cruise
more'n ten or fifteen miles from land.
The total area of the ground is estimated
at 5,350 square geographical miles.""The average steamer is about the size
of this one. That is to say, some 70 tons
measurement, 90 feet long, 17 feet beam,
7 1/2 feet depth of hold and seven feet
draft aft and costs \$16,000. It costs not
far from \$1,000 a month for wages, fuel
and provisions to run it. Like this boat,
they are screw steamers and are rigged
with one mast for'ard, which is fitted
with a crane for taking in the catch.
The men's quarters are in the fore-castle.
The fish are stored in bulk in the hold.
The engine house, as you see, is astern
the main hatch, with coal bunkers open-
ing on deck each side. All of 'em have
been fitted to the bulwarks on either side,
near the stern, cranes for the boats, and
towing chocks are set in the deck on
either quarter aft. The hold or tank for
storing the fish is water tight. There
are some steamers engaged in the fishery
which are more'n 150 feet long, carrying
from twenty-seven to thirty men, and
cost \$30,000 and upward. Most of the
steamers carry four seine boats.""Since steamers have come into vogue
the factories have greatly increased
their facilities for handling large catches.
The first factory could work up
only a few hundred barrels a day, while
now the big factories take from 3,000 to
5,000 barrels daily."—New York Herald.The paper for Bank of England notes
is made from new cuttings of white
linens, never from linen that has been
worn or soiled.Comes back—
every cent that
you've paid for
Dr. Pierce's Fa-
vorite Prescrip-
tion if you have
not found the
help that you
need. But, if
you're a tired and
feeble woman, or
a delicate and ail-
ing one, it's a remedy that's sure to give it.
Practically, it's sold on trial. That's what
it amounts to. If it doesn't give satisfac-
tion, in the building-up and strengthening of
overtaxed womanhood, and the complete
cure of all the delicate derangements, func-
tional disturbances, and painful disorders
peculiar to the sex—then you have your
money back.
You'd think that any medicine could be
sold so, if it did all that's claimed for it.
Exactly.But the fact remains that out of all the medi-
cines for women, "Favorite Prescription" is
the only one that's sold on such terms.
Knowing these things, it's an insult to
your intelligence to have something else,
that pays the dealer better, offered as "just
as good."WHY IS THE
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stylish, comfortable and durable. The best
shoe ever offered at this price; same grade as cus-
tom-made shoes costing from \$6.00 to \$10.00.\$3.50 Police Shoes: Farmers, Railroad Men
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seamless, smooth inside, heavy three soles, exten-
sion edge. One pair will wear a year.\$2.50 fine calf; no better shoe ever offered at
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who want a shoe for comfort and service.\$2.25 and \$2.00 Workingmen's shoes
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An abstract of the Annual Report made Janu-
ary 1, 1892, to the Board of Control of the State
of New Jersey, and filed in the Department of
the Secretary of State in pursuance of law.

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1892.

RESOURCES.

Bonds and mortgages \$158,400 00

Real Estate 3,000 00

U. S. and other bonds 31,384 00

Interest due and accrued 4,040 00

Office furniture, etc 500 00

Cash in bank and office 19,775 00

\$217,899 00

LIABILITIES.

Due depositors (including interest) \$200,367 94

Surplus 17,531 06

\$217,899 00

Interest is credited to depositors on the first

days of January and July in each year for the

three and six months then ending. Deposits

made on or before the first business day in Jan-
uary, April, July, and October, bear interest

from the first day of the month. All interest

when credited at once becomes principal and
bears interest accordingly.

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AND

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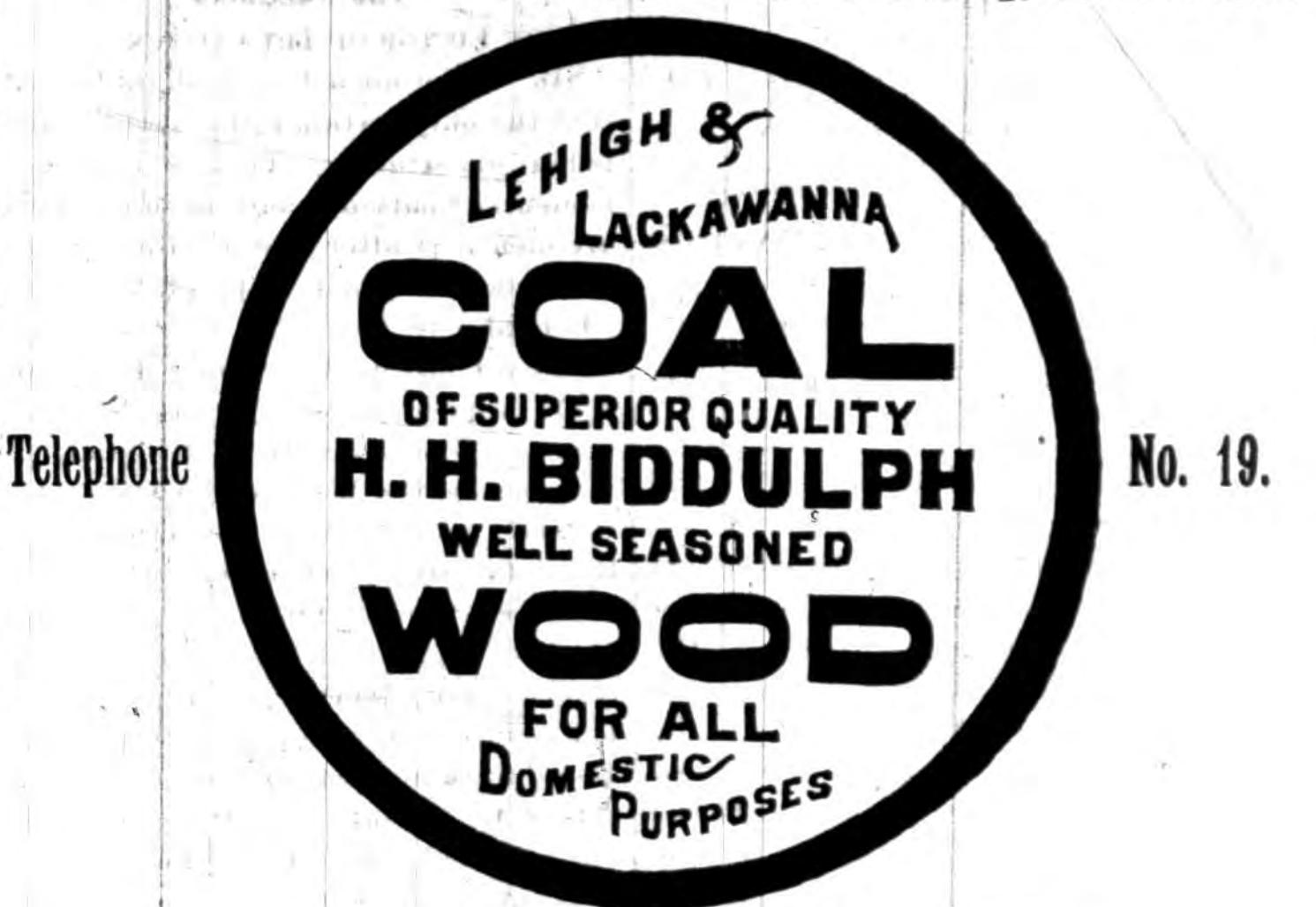
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